

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

EB-07 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-02 LAB-04 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-01 TAR-01

TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01 IO-10

EUR-12 /107 W

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R 191020Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9065

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MY, NZ, ASEAN

SUBJ: NEW ZEALAND AND ASEAN

REF: K.L. 49 (NOTAL)

1. NEW ZEALAND DCM (BARBARA ANGUS) CONTACTED EMBOFFS FEB 18 TO INQUIRE ABOUT STATUS OF U.S. ECONOMIC AND TRADE CONSULTATIONS WITH ASEAN. ANGUS SAID SHE HAD RECEIVED REPORT FROM NZ EMBASSY IN BANGKOK THAT SOME FORM OF U.S. "COOPERATION" WITH ASEAN WAS DISCUSSED AT ASEAN SECGEN'S MEETING JAN 19. AFTER DESCRIBING GENERAL NATURE OF PROPOSED U.S.-ASEAN CONSULTATIONS, EMBOFFS SAID NO REACTION TO PROPOSAL HAS BEEN

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RECEIVED FROM GOM OR, AS FAR AS WE AWARE, FROM OTHER ASEAN

GOVTS. EMBOFFS VENTURED THAT ASEAN RESPONSE MAY NOT BE FORTH-COMING BEFORE ASEAN MINISTERIAL MEETING SCHEDULED FOR MAY BUT, IN ANY CASE, U.S. DOES NOT CONTEMPLATE GIVING AID TO ASEAN OR CONDUCTING TRADE "NEGOTIATIONS" PER SE.

2. ANGUS WENT ON THAT A NEW ZEALAND-ASEAN MEETING ON FINANCIAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL ASSISTANCE WILL BE HELD FEB 27-28 IN SINGAPORE. NZ HICOM IN SINGAPORE HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AS FOCAL POINT FOR AID DISCUSSIONS WITH ASEAN AND NEXT WEEK'S MEETING WAS SCHEDULED ONLY WITH CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTY AND STALLING ON ASEAN'S PART. NZ TEAM WILL BE HEADED BY TWO EXTAFF OFFICERS FROM WELLINGTON, ONE OF WHOM IS BRIAN LYNCH, FORMER DCM IN SINGAPORE. ANGUS SAID THAT NZ AID MAY INVOLVE A PROJECT ON "END USES" OF TIMBER, BUT GNZ IS ATTEMPTING GET ASEAN NATIONS THEMSELVES TO COME UP WITH CONCRETE PROPOSALS. SHE ALSO SAID NZ EMBASSY IN MANILA WILL OPEN IN MARCH, A FACTOR THAT HAS CONTRIBUTED TO GETTING DISCUSSIONS WITH ASEAN STARTED.

3. ANGUS WAS NOT SANGUINE THAT ASEAN NATIONS WILL ENTHUSIAS-TICALLY PURSUE GNZ OFFER OF AID DUE TO DIVERGENT INTERESTS AMONG THE FIVE NATIONS AND GENERAL FOOT-DRAGGING. ACCOMPLISH-MENTS OF SINGAPORE MEETING, SHE SAID, WILL PROBABLY CONSIST OF DEVELOPING "POLITICAL CLIMATE" FOR FURTHER CONTACTS ON TECHNICAL LEVEL, IF AND WHEN ASEAN NATIONS CAN PULL THEM-SELVES TOGETHER TO FOCUS ON GNZ PROPOSALS.
UNDERHILL

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